

# State of Utah

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

ROBERT L. MORGAN Executive Director

LOWELL P. BRAXTON Division Director

Permit number: S/055/022 (Torrey

# **Inspection Report Minerals Regulatory Program**

Report Date: November 10, 2004

Mine Name: Torrey Buff and Lucero Red	Permit number: S/055/022 (Torrey Buff) and S/055/023 (Lucero Red) (NOI's not yet accepted; bonds not received)			
Operator or Permittee Name: Quality Building Stone Permittee Mailing Address:			ovember 4, 20	04
993 W. 14730 S., Bluffdale, UT 84065				
	Weathe	r: Partly clo	udy, 40-50's	
Inspector(s): Paul Baker	<b>Inspection Start Time:</b> 3:45 PM			
	<b>Inspection End Time:</b> 5:45 PM			
Other Participants: I met and spoke with Jamie	Site location/Area Inspected (i.e. Pit #):			
Pace and another employee, but they did not really	Entire a	rea		
participate in the inspection				
Permit Status: Unpermitted	Surface Ownership: BLM (south) and			
	Fee (nor			
Current Acreages:	Mineral Ownership: BLM and Fee Mineral Mined: Building Stone			
Total Permitted (Bonded): None				
Total Disturbed: 18.81	Type of	Mine: Surfa	ace	
<b>Elements of Inspection</b>	Evaluated	N/A	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds				
2. Public Safety (open shafts, adits, trash,				
signs, highwalls)				
3. Protection of Drainages				
4. Explosives, magazines	$\boxtimes$			
5. Deleterious Material				
6. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)				
7. Concurrent Reclamation			$\square$	
8. Erosion Control				H
9. Demolition	H		H	
10. Backfilling and Grading (trenches, pits,				
roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)	$\boxtimes$			
11. Water Impoundments				
12. Soils		$\vdash$		H
				H
13. Revegetation 14. Air Quality		H		H



Inspection Date: November 4, 2004; Report Date: November 10, 2004

Page 2 of 4

S/055/022 and S/055/023

#### **Purpose of Inspection:**

The operator had completed some reclamation, and the deadline for finishing some of the grading had passed. I wanted to see what work had been done and whether it was adequate.

#### **Inspection Summary:**

#### 1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bond

The Division has received Notices of Intention (NOIs) and permit fees for both of these quarries. The operator is still working to reduce the amount of disturbed area, so until this is complete, it would be difficult to create accurate maps and calculate bonds. For this reason, the Division has not found the NOIs to be complete.

If the operator is able to reduce the amount of disturbed area as much as planned, it may be possible and desirable to the operator to combine these operations into a single NOI. This is not required.

#### 4. Explosives, Magazines

At the base of the cliff near the Lucero Red Quarry is an explosives magazine (Photo 3). I believe this may be the responsibility of Bruce Hansen.

#### 7. Concurrent Reclamation

The operator has been doing reclamation work to reduce the sizes of the quarries. At the Lucero Red Quarry, a fair amount of stone has been taken away. There may have been some work to reduce the size of the pit (Photo 8), but, if so, the amount of work has been limited.

Where the stone has been hauled away, the ground is still disturbed, and it was impossible for me to tell whether these areas are going to be used for future operations. Portions of the areas where stone has been and is being stored area shown in Photos 6 and 7. The operator needs to finish taking away stone from areas that will no longer be used for loading and consolidate all operations as much as possible. I strongly suggest that the disturbed areas then be marked with T-posts to make it clear what is and what is not part of the disturbed area.

In a meeting last April, Mr. Hansen indicated he thought the pit at the Lucero Red Quarry could be reduced to about one acre. Mr. Hansen left a message indicating he would need more time to finish the reclamation he had planned to do, and he later left another message indicating he would need until about the first of January. The Division needs to either give this extra time or issue a notice of violation for not completing reclamation within the time frame specified in Mary Ann Wright's April 28, 2004, letter.

The east portion of the buff quarry has been regraded but not yet seeded. This area is shown in purple on the attached map. Mr. Pace said he is working to regrade the northwest portion of this quarry and that the operator will continue to mine the southwest portion.

Inspection Date: November 4, 2004; Report Date: November 10, 2004

Page 3 of 4

S/055/022 and S/055/023

I did not photograph or map the loading area near the buff quarry. It is the same size as when I mapped it last January, but parts of the area have not been used recently. Mr. Pace said the operator is planning to reduce this area to an acre or less.

#### 10. Backfilling and Grading

The lower part of the east portion of the buff quarry is shown in Photo 9. As can be seen, this area was graded flat and smooth with rocks pushed over the outslopes. I have mixed feelings whether this area meets grading standards. It does not blend well with surrounding areas, but once vegetation is established, it should provide more forage than some of the adjacent pinyon-juniper slopes. Since the area is so flat and devoid of rocks, it could be used by off-highway vehicles. I have asked the Bureau of Land Management to comment on this grading.

In the future, I request that the operator:

- 1) Notify the Division when grading work is being done so the Division can visit the site and make recommendations.
- 2) Try to blend the disturbed area with surrounding topography. This includes adding a little slope and leaving some rocks on the surface.
- 3) Salvage and spread soil.
- 4) Leave the surface rough.

#### 13. Revegetation

I spoke with Mr. Pace about preparing the site for seeding. It needs to be left very rough, and seed should be planted as soon as possible after surface preparation. This should happen before December.

Mr. Pace asked if the Division could recommend a seed mix. Last June, I faxed the operator a recommended mix, and another copy of this same mix was faxed November 10. The operator should purchase the seed from a reputable dealer and should ensure seed tests are not outdated (no older than 18 months).

#### GPS data:

During previous inspections, I was not able to get to the base of the outslopes at the Lucero Red Quarry, but I obtained permission to use a road going to this area. The person who gave permission works for the land owner and also loaned a key to the gate. I used the GPS to mark lines at the base of the outslopes, and I should be able to construct more accurate maps using this information.

The map attached to this report is a compilation of GPS data gathered during this inspection and during the March 2004 inspection. The purple area has been regraded, and this information was gathered in March. The yellow areas and the road were mapped during the current inspection and

Inspection Date: November 4, 2004; Report Date: November 10, 2004

Page 4 of 4

S/055/022 and S/055/023

show an area being reclaimed (northwest), an area to be used for future quarrying (southwest), and the access road.

Inspector's Signature

Date: November 10, 2004

PBB:jb

Enclosures: Photo attachment, map

cc: Wes Hansen, Quality Building Stone

Buzz Rakow, Hanksville BLM

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### ATTACHMENT Photographs

# M/055/022, Lucero Red and Torrey Buff Quarries, Quality Building Stone

Inspection Dated: November 4, 2004; Report Dated: November 10, 2004

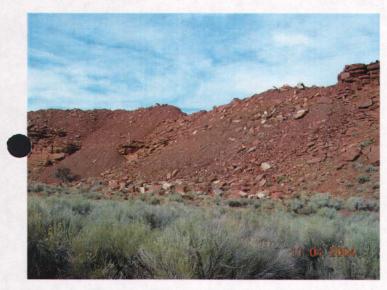


Photo 1. The outslope at the Lucero Red Quarry.



Photo 2. Another view of the Lucero Red outslope. Note the material at the base of the cliff on the left.



Photo 3. Explosives magazine at the base of the cliff to the east of the Lucero Red Quarry.



Photo 4The top of the graded area at the Torrey Buff Quarry. The outslopes of this area are shown in Photo 9.

Page 2 of 4
M/055/022 (Unpermitted)
Lucero Red and Torrey Buff Quarries
Inspection Date: November 4, 2004; Report Date: November 10, 2004



Photo 5. Area being reclaimed at the Torrey Buff Quarry.



Photo 6. A portion of the stone storage area at the Lucero Red Quarry.

Page 3 of 4 M/055/022 (Unpermitted) Lucero Red and Torrey Buff Quarries Inspection Date: November 4, 2004; Report Date: November 10, 2004

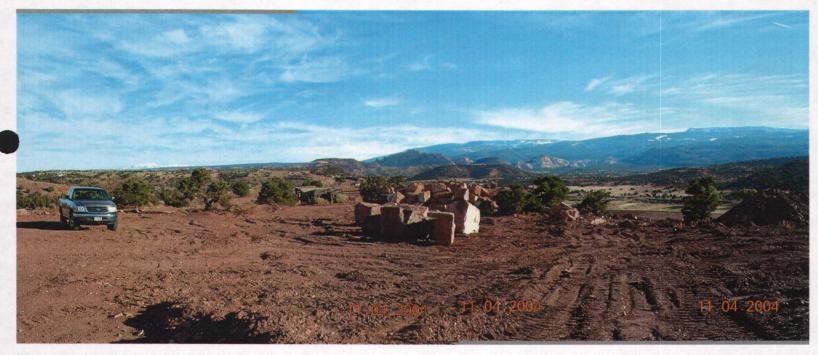


Photo 7. Another view of part of the stone storage area at the Lucero Red Quarry. Although a lot of stones have been removed, quite a few remain.

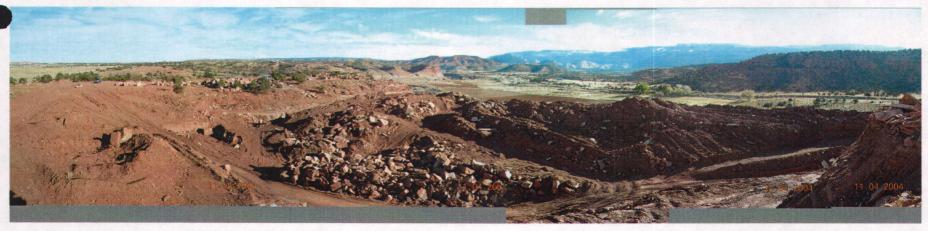


Photo 8. The pit at the Lucero Red Quarry. This is a composite of five photos and has some distortion.

Page 4 of 4 M/055/022 (Unpermitted) Lucero Red and Torrey Buff Quarries Inspection Date: November 4, 2004; Report Date: November 10, 2004

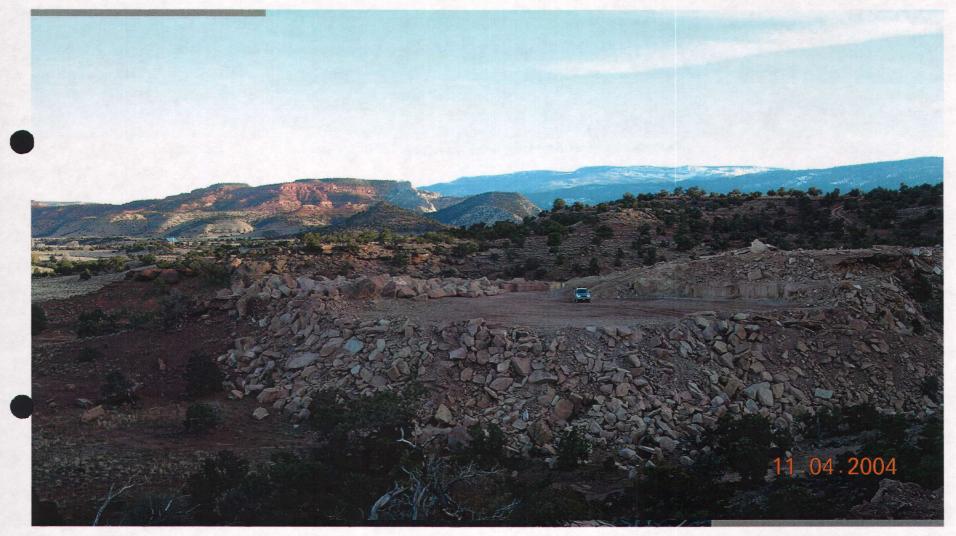


Photo 9. A portion of the regraded area at the Torrey Buff Quarry. Note how flat and smooth the top is. This area should be roughened prior to seeding. In the future, the operator should attempt to blend areas like this into the surrounding terrain and to leave some rock on the surface.

